

[14th March 1928]

(e) what the area and assessment were of the original inam lands of those restored to that church;

(f) what modifications in regard to area and assessment have those lands undergone; and

(g) what orders the Collectors and the Revenue Board have passed as to the area, assessment and conditions of use of the site of the church and the contiguous lands required for processions and other religious functions?

A.—(a) to (g) The information desired by the hon. Member is not available in any of the ordinary books of reference. Search is being made in the Government Record Office and the records of the Board of Revenue and the result will be stated if the hon. Member will repeat his question later on.

### Land Revenue

*Disabilities of Catholics as to lands purchased for Churches in South Kanara.*

\* 1741 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the Secretary of the South Kanara Indian Christian Civic League submitting a resolution recorded by its Committee to represent to Government, the disabilities of Catholics as to lands purchased for churches with a memorandum as to the canon and civil laws on the subject; and

(b) what action Government have taken in the matter?

A.—(a) The Government have received a representation on the subject on the 15th February last, but no copy of the resolution recorded by the Committee of the League has been received.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

*Search fees for copies of public documents applied for by interested parties.*

\* 1742 Q.—Mr. J. KUPPUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent judgment of the Madras High Court reported in LIV, M.L.J., 229 regarding *Raja Sahib of Vijjanagaram v. the Sub-Collector of Berhampur*, declaring that no search fees should be charged for copies of public documents applied for by interested parties in addition to the supply of copy stamp papers therefor;

(b) why search fees are even now demanded by the Revenue and Registration departments in such cases;

(c) whether the judgment of the High Court has been communicated to all heads of departments for information and guidance;

(d) whether the Government have not yet revised their rules in the Board's Standing Orders, Registration and other departmental manuals relating to the payment of search fees with reference to the judgment of the High Court above referred to; and

(e) why even when the party gives in his application for copies sufficient details relating to the number, year and substance of the document a search fee should be demanded by the Revenue and the Registration departments?

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A.—The Government have seen a report of the judgment in LIV, M.L.J., 229 and see in it no authority for the generalizations sought to be made from it in the question. The Government have called for a report on the case and on receipt of it will consider what amendments, if any, are necessary to the existing rules on the subject of search fees.

*Suspension of the collection of land revenue in Bellary and Rayadrug taluks.*

\* 1743 Q.—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the villages in Bellary and Rayadrug taluks, Bellary district, in which the collection of land revenue was either suspended or remitted wholly or partially for any or all of the faslis 1333, 1334, 1335 and 1336 together with their respective average yields in fasli 1337;

(b) the villages in which the suspended revenue of the previous faslis or fasli was collected in fasli 1335 with their respective average yields in that year;

(c) the villages in which the Government have ordered the postponement of collection of land revenue for fasli 1336;

(d) the villages in which the Government have ordered the remission of land revenue for fasli 1336 wholly or partially and in the latter case the amount of such partial remission; and

(e) the villages in which the Government have ordered the suspension or remission of land revenue due for fasli 1337?

A.—(a) & (c) The villages in which land revenue was suspended or remitted in fasli 1333 are given in the list (No. 1) appended.<sup>a</sup> The land revenue due for faslis 1334 and 1335 was not suspended or remitted. The villages in which the collection of the suspended land revenue of previous faslis was postponed or remitted in fasli 1334 are given in the list (No. 2) appended.<sup>a</sup> The villages in which the land revenue for fasli 1336 was suspended are given in the list (No. 3) appended.<sup>a</sup> The estimated average outturn of crops in fasli 1337 in the villages in which the revenue of fasli 1336 was suspended is shown in the list (No. 3).

(b) A list of the villages (No. 4) is appended.<sup>a</sup> The estimated yield averaged from 8 annas to 12 annas in the villages of the Bellary taluk and from 8 annas to 11 annas in the Rayadrug taluk. The Government are not in possession of separate figures for each village.

(d) No remission of land revenue due on dry lands was sanctioned. The remission of land revenue due on wet lands was granted in accordance with the Board's Standing Orders.

(e) No suspension or remission of revenue due for fasli 1337 has been sanctioned. The suspended revenue of fasli 1336 which was due for collection in fasli 1337 has been further suspended in the villages given in the list (No. 5).